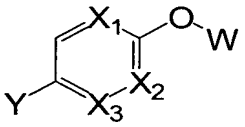
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-19 without prejudice and insert therefore new Claims 20-33. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (canceled)

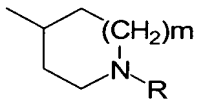
20. (New) A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

wherein X^1, X^2 and X^3 each independently represent N or CH (provided that all of X^1, X^2 and X^3 are not CH at the same time);

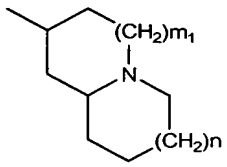
W represents a group of the formula (II):



(II)

wherein m indicates an integer of from 0 to 3;

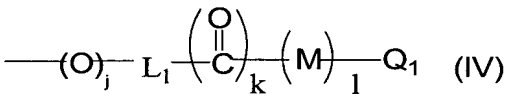
R is selected from the group consisting of: a linear or branched lower alkyl group (excepting a methyl group), a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 9 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group, and a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (wherein the hetero ring has 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms), which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from the class consisting of a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a carbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbonyl group and a trifluoromethyl group),
or R represents a group of the formula (III):



(III)

wherein m^1 indicates an integer of from 0 to 3; n indicates an integer of from 0 to 2;

Y represents a group of the formula (IV):

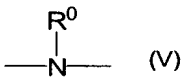


(IV)

wherein j, k and l each independently indicate 0 or 1;

L_1 represents a lower alkylene group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a single bond;

M represents an oxygen atom or a group of a formula (V):

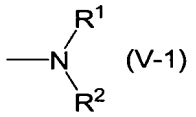


(V)

wherein R^0 represents a lower alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

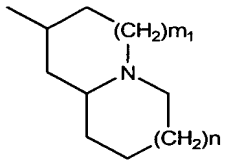
Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of: a linear or branched lower alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 9 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, a 5-membered or 6-membered heteroaryl group, a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (the hetero ring has 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms), a naphthyl group and a condensed-cyclic heteroaryl group,
which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from a class consisting of a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a carbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a trifluoromethyl group, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is

unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group) and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group),
or Q_1 represents a group of a formula (V-1):


(V-1)

wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same or different, each representing a lower alkyl group or a mono- or di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, or R^1 and R^2 together form, along with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a 3- to 9-membered lactam ring, a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (the group has 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms), a 5-membered heteroaryl group, or a condensed-cyclic heteroaryl group.

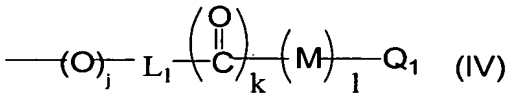
21. (New) The compound of Claim 20, wherein R in formula (II) is a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 9 carbon atoms or a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (the hetero ring has 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms),
which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from a class consisting of a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group and a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, or a represents a group of a formula (III):



(III)

wherein m_1 indicates an integer of from 0 to 3; and n indicates an integer of from 0 to 2.

22. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein Y represents a group of the formula (IV):

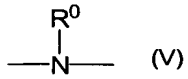


(IV)

wherein j, k and l each independently indicate 0 or 1;

L_1 represents a lower alkylene group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a single bond;

M represents an oxygen atom, or a group of a formula (V):



(V)

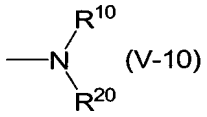
wherein R^0 represents a lower alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of: a linear or branched lower alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 9 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, a 5-membered or 6-membered heteroaryl group, a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (the hetero ring has 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms), a naphthyl group and a condensed-cyclic heteroaryl group,
which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from a class consisting of a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a carbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a trifluoromethyl group, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group) and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group),
or the a group of the formula (IV) is a C_{1-4} lower alkylene group, a carbonyl group, -C(O)-O-, a -C_{1-4} lower alkylene-C(O)-, a -C_{1-4} lower alkylene-C(O)-O-, a -C_{1-4} lower alkylene-C(O)-N(R^0)-, -C(O)-N(R^0)0-, -O-C_{1-4} lower alkylene-, or a single bond.

23. (New) The compound of Claim 22 wherein Q_1 is selected from the group consisting of: a linear or branched lower alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group having from 3 to 9 carbon atoms, a phenyl group and a naphthyl group,
which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from a class consisting of a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a carbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a trifluoromethyl group, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group) and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom

in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), or represents a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl group having from 1 to 3 hetero atoms selected from a group consisting of an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom and a nitrogen atom, a heterocyclic group having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms and having from 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms in the ring, or a mono- to tri-cyclic condensed-cyclic heteroaryl group optionally having from 1 to 3 hetero atoms selected from a group consisting of an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom and a nitrogen atom in each ring.

24. (New) The compound of Claim 22 wherein Q_1 is a group of a formula (V-10):



(V-10)

wherein R^{10} and R^{20} together form, along with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a 3- to 9-membered lactam ring, a heterocyclic ring having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms (wherein R^{10} and R^{20} may have, apart from the adjacent nitrogen atom, 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms in the ring as the constitutive atoms of the hetero ring), a 5-membered heteroaryl group having from 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms in the ring, or a bicyclic condensed-cyclic heteroaryl group having from 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms or oxygen atoms in each ring.

25. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein -Y in formula (I) is selected from the group consiting of: a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a pyridazinyl group, and a pyrimidinyl group, which is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from a class consisting of a hydroxyl group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group).

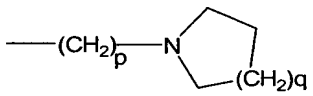
26. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein -Y in formula (I) is a bi- or tri-cyclic condensed ring having at least one phenyl group or pyridyl group in the ring, which may have therein 1 or 2 substituents selected from a class consisting of a hydroxyl group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl

group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group).

27. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein -Y in formula (I) is selected from the group consiting of: a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, an imidazolyl group, a pyrazolyl group, a thiazolyl group, a thiadiazolyl group, an isothiazolyl group, an oxazolyl group, an isoxazolyl group, a pyridyl group, a pyridazinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group, and a pyrazinyl group,
which may have in the ring thereof, 1 or 2 substituents selected from a class consisting of a hydroxyl group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a cyclo-lower alkylsulfonyl group, a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group).

28. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein -Y in formula (I) is selected from the group consiting of: an oxetanyl group, a tetrahydrofuranyl group, a tetrahydropyranyl group, a pyrrolidinyl group, a piperidinyl group, a homopiperidinyl group, a morpholinyl group, and a homomorpholinyl group,
which may have in the ring thereof, 1 or 2 substituents selected from a class consisting of a hydroxyl group, a lower alkyl group (the lower alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy group, a halogen atom or an amino group), a lower alkoxy group (the lower alkoxy group is unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a mono-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a di-lower alkylaminocarbonyloxy group, a mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a di-lower alkylcarbamoyl group, a cycloalkyliminocarbamoyl group, a lactam ring, a mono-lower alkylamino group, a di-lower alkylamino group, an alkanoyl group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), an alkanoylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group), and an alkylsulfonylamino group (the nitrogen atom in the group is unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl group).

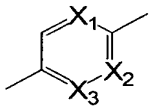
29. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein -Y in formula (I) is a group of the formula (IV-2):



(IV-2)

wherein p indicates an integer of from 1 to 3; q indicates an integer of from 1 to 4.

30. (New) The compound of Claim 20 wherein at least one of X^1 and X^2 in the group of formula (I-1):



(I-1)

wherein X^1, X^2 and X^3 each independently represent N or CH, provided that all of X^1, X^2 and X^3 are not CH at the same time, is a nitrogen atom, or both X^2 and X^3 therein are nitrogen atoms.

31. (New) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-(cyclopentylpyrrolidin-3-yloxy)-5-(4-carbamoylphenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpyrrolidin-3-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-(cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclohexylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopropylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-ethylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)phenyl}piperidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(dimethylcarbamoyl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(morpholin-4-ylcarbonyl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(phenoxy)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(3-quinolinyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(5-indolyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1H-pyridin-2-on-1-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(piperidin-2-on-1-yl)pyrimidine,

2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(8-quinolinyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-phenyl-4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(pyridin-3-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(dibenzofuran-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-cyclopentyloxypyridin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-cyclopentyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-3-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{2-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)pyridin-5-yl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-cyano-5-thenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(morpholin-3-on-4-yl)phenyl}pyrimidin,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(2-oxazolidin-3-yl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)pyrimidin,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-fluoropyridin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(1H-pyridin-2-on-1-yl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-acetylphenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(2-hydroxy-2-propyl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-ethylpyridin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyrazine,
5-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-2-(4-cyanophenyl)pyridine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-cyanophenyl)pyridazine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(piperidin-1-ylmethyl)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-ccylopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-cyanopyrimidin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-difluoromethoxypyridin-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-difluoromethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{4-(N-methyl-N-methoxycarbonylamino)phenyl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-ethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyrimidine,

2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-ethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-methylimidazo[1,2,a]pyridin-6-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(2-carbamoylpyridin-5-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2,2-difluoroethyl)-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1,2,4-triazolo[4,3,a]pyridin-7-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1,2,4-triazolo[4,3,a]pyridin-6-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-difluoromethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridin,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-difluoromethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl)pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2-fluoroethyl)-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-cyclopentylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2-fluoroethyl)-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl}pyrimidine,
2-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2-fluoroethyl)-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl}pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2-fluoroethoxy-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl}pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-{1-(2-fluoroethyl)-1H-pyridin-2-on-4-yl}pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(3-chloro-1-methyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
2-(1-cyclobutylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-ethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
2-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yloxy)-5-(1-ethyl-1H-pyridin-2-on-5-yl)pyridine,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an inert carrier and the compound of Claim 20, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

33. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of a disease or disorder selected from the group consisting of: a metabolic system disease, obesity, diabetes, hormone secretion disorder, hyperlipemia, gout, fatty liver; a circulatory system disease, stenocardia, acute congestive cardiac insufficiency, cardiac infarction, coronary arteriosclerosis, hypertension, nephropathy, sleep disorder, a disease accompanied by a sleep disorder, idiopathic hypersomnia, repetitive hypersomnia, true hypersomnia, narcolepsy, sleep periodic acromotion disorder, sleep apnea syndrome, circadian rhythm disorder, chronic fatigue syndrome, REM sleep disorder, senile insomnia, night worker sleep insanitation, idiopathic insomnia, repetitive insomnia, true insomnia, electrolyte metabolism disorder, a central nervous system disease, a peripheral nervous system disease, bulimia, emotional disorder, melancholia, anxiety, epilepsy, delirium, dementia, shinzophrenia, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, memory disorder, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, recognition disorder, motion disorder, paresthesia, dysosmia, epilepsy, morphine resistance, narcotic dependency, and alcoholic dependency,

in a mammalian patient in need thereof which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of Claim 20, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.